



Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary

SANCTUARY ADVISORY
COUNCIL

MEMBERS:

Carol Keiper
Research

Lance Morgan
Conservation

Chuck Wise
Maritime Activity

Tom Lambert
Community-at-Large Sonoma

Doreen Gurrola
Education

David Swatland
U.S. Coast Guard

Daniel Cohen
Research Alternate

Todd Steiner
Conservation Alternate

Josh Churchman
Maritime Activity Alternate

Michael Mery
Community-at-Large Marin Alternate

Agenda
Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council
Point Reyes National Seashore Association
September 19, 2007

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topics and Objectives</u>
9:00-9:15	Welcome, Roll Call, Review Agenda – Tom Lambert
9:15-9:30	Review March 13th Minutes – Tom Lambert
9:30-10:00	Manager's Report – Dan Howard
10:00-10:10	Public Comment
10:10-10:20	Education Report – Jenny Stock
10:20-10:30	Research Report – Lisa Etherington
10:30-10:50	<u>Possible Action Item</u> CBNMS Boundary Modification Resolution – Tom Lambert
10:50-11:00	Break
11:00-11:30	Council Member Updates – Tom Lambert
11:30-12:30	Condition Report – Dan Howard, Lisa Etherington
12:30-1:15	Lunch
1:15-2:30	Panel Presentation and Discussion: Marine Life Protection Act Process Melissa Miller-Henson – MLPA Office, Irina Kogan – NMSP, Sarah Allen – Science and Technology Committee, Josh Churchman and Lance Morgan – Stakeholders Group

**Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes**

Materials Distributed –

- September 19th Agenda
- March 13th Minutes
- For SAC Binder: Table of Contents, SAC Resolution Policies

Meeting Commenced at 9:18 a.m.

Roll call, Review Agenda – Tom Lambert

Roll -

Council Members Present:

Tom Lambert
Lance Morgan
Doreen Gurrola
Carol Keiper
Dan Cohen
Josh Churchman
Todd Steiner

Council Members Absent:

Captain David Swatland
Michael Mery

Voting Alternates:

None

Staff Present:

Dan Howard
Rowena Forest

Public Present:

George Clyde
Richard Charter

Review Last Meeting's Minutes

Motion

Doreen Gurrola moved to accept 3-13-07 SAC minutes

Tom Lambert seconds

All in favor

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes

Public Comment

Richard Charter presented the emerging issue of wave energy development off the California coast.

George Clyde commented on this topic, and his involvement in a wave energy start-up company in the 1990's

Manager's Report – Dan Howard

Design funding for office expansion and storage facility has been allocated- We are developing scope of work and will be recruiting an architectural firm to design the facilities.

Council positions –

Names will be submitted to HQ for clearance for the Marin community at large primary seat and the Sonoma community at large at large alternate seat. We will be advertising for the education alternate seat to replace Duffy who stepped down. She is quitting her job and exploring new possibilities.

Captain David Swatland on weapons training - Coast Guard offshore weapons training is still not being conducted anywhere in central or northern CA and will continue in that status until the EIR/political/etc. issues are resolved. Sector SF is flying 20 people to San Diego every other month to conduct training. Please feel free to contact me during or after the meeting with any issues that come up.

I recently returned from Leadership Team meeting in Milwaukee. Reason for meeting in Wisconsin was to meet with people in that state who are interested in learning more about Sanctuaries and the programs ability to protect several important ship wrecks that are off the Wisconsin coast. FY08 budget news - house and senate marks are close and would get us close to the funding level we were at three years ago. President's budget provides level funding which would be very difficult as we have taken severe cuts over the last two years. We will have to wait and see how it turns out.

Met with staff at Shedd Aquarium in Chicago to see how we could better integrate marine conservation messages into their programming. They were very interested in Jennifer Stocks Animals in Curriculum project.

Facilities and Exhibits for FY08 - Both our facilities and exhibit request for FY08 ranked high on the national priority list developed by HQ. Construction of our office expansion ranked 6th and development of exhibits at the Oakland Museum ranked 2nd for exhibits.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes

Reauthorization of Marine Sanctuaries Act – field hearings were held in Santa Barbara.

Education Report – Jenny Stock

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (CBNMS) Field Seminar
KWMR pledge drive – interview with Tom Kendrick
Teacher workshop at Sonoma County Office of Education
California Science Teachers Meeting – Long Beach
California signage – CBNMS partner with Gulf of the Farallones

Ocean Education Position – partner position through Point Reyes National Seashore Association (PRNSA), Point Reyes National Seashore, and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

Research Report – Lisa Etherington

CB buoy is fixed and up and running on the web
Marine debris removal project on Cordell Bank is on hold. May resume next Fall with the Fulmar vessel.
Video sled cruise at the Sanctuary
SiMON website – expanding to include Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuaries. Lisa will send the SAC an announcement when this is up and running
Fulmar research cruises for CBNMS in 2008
Black-footed Albatross tagging project
Partnership cruises with PRBO within the Gulf of the Farallones and CBNMS looking at krill and krill predators

CBNMS Boundary Modification Resolution – Tom Lambert

Tom Lambert presented the draft resolution to modify the proposed expansion of Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and the listed reasons to include Bodega Canyon in H.R. 1187.

Motion

Doreen Gurrola moved to accept CBNMS Boundary Expansion Modification Resolution

Lance Morgan seconds

All in favor

The Council advised Dan Howard to direct the SAC resolution to:
The National Marine Sanctuary Program – Dan Basta

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes

The Council will direct the resolution to:
Senator Barbara Boxer's office
Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's office
Senator Wayne Gilchrest's office
Representative Nick Rahall's office

The Resolution will also be posted on the CBNMS Advisory Council website

Break

Member Updates – Tom Lambert

Doreen Gurrola – Cordell Bank NMS Foundation formation update, CBNMS Field Seminar report, Doreen would like the Council to support an effort to get Cordell Bank NMS more research time on the Fulmar for research cruise days each year.

Carol Keiper – Black-footed Albatross tagging project

Chuck Wise – Salmon season update. The season is almost over and was a bad year – about equal to last year. Chuck noted that the ocean conditions are good this year, however. Disaster relief money for salmon fishery collapse last year will be coming through to fisherman soon. State Fisherman's Association barbeque to raise funds for a fisherman's memorial at Spud Point.

Josh Churchman noted that the rockfish seem abundant around Cordell Bank. Todd asked if there have been many Coho salmon caught this year, and Chuck noted that there have been several Coho caught which is not unusual.

Todd Steiner – Three organizations petitioning for Leatherback Turtle conservation zone. Marin County scientists letter of support to increase protections for Central CA Coho salmon populations.

Tom Lambert – Article of Capitol Hill Ocean Week and facts of CBNMS, featuring Tom and Dan, in the Sonoma West Times. August 10th Federal Consistency Hearing of the California Coastal Commission.

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes

Condition Report – Lisa Etherington, Dan Howard

Condition Report is a process to assess status and trends within the Sanctuary

Goals of the Condition Report

Condition Report details

Summary of findings

Outline of Condition Reports

Primary Pressures on the Sanctuary

Report on Status and Trends

Standardized Rating Questions

Example of ratings for Cordell Bank issues

Sanctuary Response to Pressures

Report Conclusions

SAC comments and questions –

Todd Steiner commented that Pollution should be included as a pressure on the Sanctuary

Todd commented that the media has taken the negative aspects of the Report findings at other Sanctuaries and focused on those. He hopes that this does not happen for the Cordell Bank Condition Report.

Lisa commented that the SAC should submit comments they will be reviewed by external review, and possibly incorporated.

Lunch

Panel Presentation and Discussion: Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Process

Melissa Miller-Henson – MLPA Office, Irina Kogan – NMSP, Sarah Allen – Science and Technology Committee, Josh Churchman and Lance Morgan – Stakeholders Group

Lance Morgan – Overview of MLPA Process:

MLPA passed several years ago to set up several marine reserves in the State of California. Three categories – State Marine Reserves, State Marine Conservation Areas, State Marine Parks. The State of CA has been divided into five zones. Already done: Central California from Point Conception to Pigeon Point. The goal is to work through a complex process – stakeholder groups meet guidelines and reach consensus to decide where the reserves will be. Political appointees (Blue Ribbon Task Force) then review it, and then it goes to the California Fish and Game Commission for the final determination

Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes

Sarah Allen – Science Advisory Team (SAT) Overview:

Co-chairs of the SAT, representatives on the SAT – socio economic, biologic, and other scientific representatives. The actions taken are based on requests of the Stakeholders Group. Six goals and tasks of the SAT:

Protect biodiversity

Sustain, conserve, and protect marine life habitats that have economic and biologic value

Improve recreation, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems

Protect marine natural heritage

Ensure that CA Marine Protected Areas (MPA's) have adequate guidelines and based on sound science

Ensure that the MPA's are established as a network

Liaison between the stakeholders group and Science and Technical Committee.

The process right now is pulling the information together, making sure it is accurate, and completing regional profiles

Melissa Miller-Henson – MLPA office

Melissa reviewed the six goals of establishing the MPA's. She handed out information regarding the definition and classifications of Marine Protected Areas and gave an overview and history of the MLPA process.

The preliminary draft of the north central coast MPA's has been drawn-up. Melissa handed out information about California's Marine Life Protection Act Initiative and the Second Phase participants. Melissa handed out an information sheet of California's Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Second Phase, for outreach.

Melissa reviewed the history of MLPA attempts in the past. Now the MLPA staff is well-established, and the process has stable funding, thus is moving forward efficiently.

Melissa outlined the existing framework and methodology established for the science team to follow in reviewing the advise of the stakeholders group. There will then be feedback back to the regional stakeholder groups. In the second round there will also be feedback from the Fish and Game Commission during the process.

Questions for the Panel –

Lance talked about the dynamic in his group as compared to Josh's group. Lance would like to see it on the map, then evaluate the overall regional picture. There has been lots of discussion whether areas should be protected as a reserve or conservation area.

**Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes**

Melissa discussed that after each meeting there is a debrief among staff to evaluate how the meeting went and what can be improved in the process.

Tom Lambert asked: when considering the boundaries of a reserve, are the shifts of fishing pressures taken into account?

Melissa – how do we take into account existing fisheries management. She outlined the history of fisheries management in California. If MLPA decisions impact fisheries management, then the Marine Life Management Act has to address this with the fisheries. It is too difficult to design a network of MPA's in relation to fisheries management, which often changes.

Melissa discussed with Josh that the MLPA process is in favor of keeping California fishing a vibrant local industry, not to eliminate it by restricting access. This will be accomplished by meeting the six goals drawn-up.

Melissa outlined the involvement of NOAA/Gulf of the Farallones on the stakeholder's group. Dan Howard commented on this. Melissa commented that the National Park Service and the California State Parks System are both on the stakeholders group as well.

Dan Howard asked if in the end the Fish and Game Commission has the final say? Melissa answered yes, the Commission can make the final decisions, but they are very supportive of the process and the stakeholders input, as well as the science guidelines being met.

Melissa discussed outside MPA proposals that were submitted by conservation groups, and requirements for those packages to be evaluated by the groups and commission.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

**Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting
September 19th, 2007
Minutes**

Action Items

Motion

Doreen Gurrola moved to accept 3-13-07 SAC minutes

Tom Lambert seconds

All in favor

Motion

Doreen Gurrola moved to accept CBNMS Boundary Expansion Modification Resolution

Lance Morgan seconds

All in favor

**Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council Meeting Agenda
Point Reyes National Seashore Association
September 19, 2007
Attachments**

Attachment #1

Manager's Report – Dan Howard

Design funding for office expansion and storage facility has been allocated- We are developing scope of work and will be recruiting an architectural firm to design the facilities.

Council positions –

Names will be submitted to HQ for clearance for the Marin community at large primary seat and the Sonoma community at large alternate seat. We will be advertising for the education alternate seat to replace Duffy who stepped down. She is quitting her job and exploring new possibilities.

Captain David Swatland on weapons training - Coast Guard offshore weapons training is still not being conducted anywhere in central or northern CA and will continue in that status until the EIR/political/etc. issues are resolved. Sector SF is flying 20 people to San Diego every other month to conduct training. Please feel free to contact me during or after the meeting with any issues that come up.

I recently returned from Leadership Team meeting in Milwaukee. Reason for meeting in Wisconsin was to meet with folks in that state who are interested in learning more about Sanctuaries and the programs ability to protect several important ship wrecks that are off the Wisconsin coast. FY08 budget news is positive as house and senate marks are close and would get us close to the funding level we were at three years ago. President's budget provides level funding which would be very difficult as we have taken severe cuts over the last two years. We are optimistic will have to wait and see how it turns out.

Met with staff at Shedd Aquarium in Chicago to see how we could better integrate marine conservation messages into their programming. They were very interested in Jennifer Stocks Animals in Curriculum project.

Facilities and Exhibits for FY08 - Both our facilities and exhibit request for FY08 ranked high on the national priority list developed by HQ. Construction of our office expansion ranked 6th and development of exhibits at the Oakland Museum ranked 2nd for exhibits.

Attachment #2

Education Report – Jennifer Stock

KWMR radio show Ocean Currents on Thursday September 20th, 5:30-6:30pm Tom Kendrick guest, pledge show great pledge premiums available.

ACES Workshop held August 1-3 at Sonoma County Office Of Education. 22 teachers from different counties attended. Teachers trained on how to implement ACES curriculum. Geared to low science background. 2008 another workshop, and presentation happening at CSTA in Long Beach, CA.

Oakland Museum project moving forward now, money secured and granted to them. I'll be lead on project with museum representing the sanctuaries on all content related to sanctuary related exhibits and habitats.

CA Signs are here and getting installed. I showed example. Signs going in at BML, Spud Point Marina, Point Reyes National Seashore, Dillon Beach. Working with GGNRA on the next round of signs. These are to build basic awareness about the sanctuaries existence and the abundance of marine life here.

We have a new position that we are part of with PRNSA and PORE. The ocean education and outreach position is funded by grant monies applied for by PRNSA and we were brought in as a partner. The person will do lots of different projects associated with the MLPA process and build and interpretation program out at the PR lighthouse about the sanctuaries.

Attachment #3

Research Report – Lisa Etherington

SAC members may be aware that the Cordell Bank oceanographic buoy has had a rocky start since it was deployed in May, with problems of data collection and transmission. Several servicing trips were conducted to troubleshoot the problems, with no luck. Last week Lisa went out with Bodega Marine Lab staff on the R/V Mussel Point to perform repairs on the Cordell Bank oceanographic buoy. Several parts were replaced, and it appears that the sensors are functioning, the data are being transmitted, and data are being transferred to a web site. The web site is not quite ready for public distribution. Lisa will let the SAC know when the public web site is available and data from the buoy can be viewed.

The project to test methods of removing derelict fishing gear from Cordell Bank has been postponed. CBNMS has run into some issues with obtaining a vessel and scheduling a contractor. The work is going to be pushed back to the next year, with plans to use the Fulmar for the operations in fall 2008. The latest plan is to use an ROV and potentially Navy divers to experiment with gear removal.

In May, CBNMS conducted a 4-day cruise aboard the R/V Fulmar using a towed video camera sled. The goal of the project is to describe the soft bottom communities and habitats within the continental shelf region of CBNMS (which makes up approximately 60% of the Sanctuary). Transect sampling was conducted in the eastern part of the Sanctuary in depths of 61-188m). On the majority of transects, sea whips were the most frequently observed organisms. Brittle stars, various species of flatfishes, anemones, and sand stars were also common. The plan is to combine these data with those collected in 2004 to develop a summary description of this system.

The Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) is a web site for general information on natural history of sanctuaries, a description of the research and monitoring work that is being conducted in the sanctuaries, an image gallery, and educational information and links. Currently, SIMoN is just focused on MBNMS, but we are working on expanding it to include not only MBNMS, but also CBNMS and GFNMS. The target data for unveiling the new expanded web site is this winter. Lisa will send information to the SAC when the new web site is available.

CBNMS research staff are working to develop a schedule for CBNMS use of the Fulmar in 2008. The rough schedule includes time for: 1) the majority of the year's Cordell Bank Ocean Monitoring Program monthly surveys; 2) 2 education trips associated with BWET (with Marine Mammal Center) and ACES; 3) experimental marine debris removal project.

CBNMS participated in several projects this summer with partners. In July, CBNMS worked with Oikonomos Ecosystem Knowledge in the tagging of 10 Black-footed Albatrosses captured within CBNMS with satellite transmitters. CBNMS provided vessel time and logistical support. In June, Lisa worked with PRBO Conservation Science in completing a 6-day cruise aboard the NOAA vessel MacArthur surveying the offshore ecosystem within GFNMS and CBNMS. CBNMS contributed vessel time and staff time to this project.

Attachment #4

Sanctuary Boundary Modification Resolution – Tom Lambert

Whereas, H.R. 1187, the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act, was introduced to the 110th Congress on February 16, 2007 by Ms. Woolsey and Mr. Gilchrest; and

Whereas, H.R. 1187 would expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries to broaden the geographic scope of protection the two sanctuaries provide to an extremely productive ocean environment; and

Whereas, submarine canyons, such as Bodega Canyon, are ecologically and economically important because they act as a refuge for some economically important species, provide suitable habitat for sensitive species such as deep water corals and sponges and extend from the continental shelf to the deep sea containing a variety of habitats and a diversity of organisms; and

Whereas, the primary reason for expanding the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary is to include Bodega Canyon within the Sanctuary; and

Whereas, only about one - half of Bodega Canyon would be within the expanded boundaries proposed by H.R. 1187.

Therefore be it resolved, the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council strongly encourages the boundaries proposed in H.R. 1187 be modified to include all of Bodega Canyon by adding a 296.5 square nautical mile area identified by the following corner points: Point 1- North Latitude 38.30000, West Longitude -123.66666. Point 2 - North Latitude 38.30000, West Longitude -124.00000. Point 3 - North Latitude 37.83333, West Longitude -123.78173. Point 4 - North Latitude 37.83333, West Longitude -123.66666. (See figure 1).

The Council is an advisory body to the Sanctuary Manager (Superintendent). The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.